

***Amendment To The Specification***

On page 4 of the Specification, please delete the last paragraph and replace it with the following amended paragraph:

It is known that derivatisation of boronic acids as cyclic esters provides oxidation resistance. For example, Martichonok V et al *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 118: 950-958, 1996 state that diethanolamine derivatisation provides protection against possible boronic acid oxidation. ~~US Patent No 5,681,978 (Matteson DS et al) teaches that 1,2-diols and 1,3-diols, for example pinacol, form stable cyclic boronic esters that are not easily oxidised.~~